



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

Attachment  
Agenda Item V(a)  
MRCA  
February 2, 2005

January 19, 2005

Rorie Skei  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road  
Malibu, California 90265

**Grant SMM-0465, Soka University Acquisition PP&D**

Dear Rorie:

The MRCA respectfully requests an augmentation for grant #SMM-0465, Soka University Acquisition PP&D in the amount of \$75,000.00. The budget augmentation is necessary because acquisition of the property has turned out to be much more complicated than we expected at the time of the grant application.

Originally we expected to be working primarily with State Parks and NPS on the acquisition. Now, several other agencies are involved, and portions of the property will be sold as part of the transaction. This is necessary to obtain enough funds to acquire the property. Each additional funding source creates increased legal and staff costs for compliance with each agency's procedures. In addition, relocation of the tenants proved to be more complicated than originally anticipated, and we had to retain a professional relocation expert for that aspect of the transaction. The transaction has also taken longer than expected. Originally we expected to close by 12/31/04. The current schedule is to close on 4/15/05, necessitating an additional four months of personnel expenses.

The additional funds will be used for appraisals, appraisal reviews, engineering and documentation of legal descriptions, additional environmental reviews, relocation consultant fees, and additional staff costs. All of the requested augmentation would be for Task 1, Pre-Acquisition Activities, and would fund activities directly related to the acquisition, protection and restoration of land and water resources.

Please respond to me at the above address indicating approval of the budget augmentation at your earliest convenience, or by email at [Cara.McLane@mrca.ca.gov](mailto:Cara.McLane@mrca.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

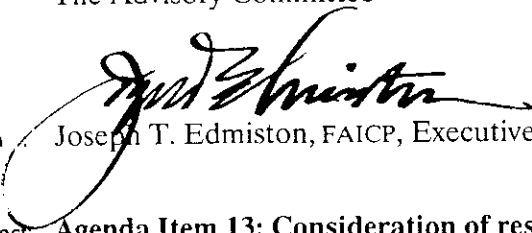
Cara McLane  
Deputy Chief of Natural Resources and Planning  
Contracts Officer

cc: Phyllis Lichtenstein

## Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: January 24, 2005

From :   
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 13: Consideration of resolution augmenting a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (SMM-0465) for project planning and design services for the Soka University acquisition project, unincorporated Calabasas area.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution augmenting a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (SMM-0465) in the amount of \$75,000 for project planning and design services for the Soka University acquisition project, unincorporated Calabasas area.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204(c) of Public Resources Code.

Background: On August 30, 2004 the Board authorized a \$200,000.00 grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for project planning and design services for the Soka University acquisition. The grant funds are used for activities directly related to the acquisition, protection and restoration of land and water resources and associated planning, permitting and administrative costs for the proposed Soka University acquisition and enhancement. Acquisition of the property will protect land and water resources resulting in the reduction of pollution, capture of additional storm water runoff, protection and management of ground water, and the provision of habitat for fish and wildlife.

The MRCA has requested an augmentation to the grant because acquisition of the property has turned out to be much more complicated than was expected at the time of the grant application. The transaction now includes several more funding sources than originally anticipated, as well as relocation of tenants, and the sale of certain portions of the property. Each additional funding source creates increased legal and staff costs for compliance with each agency's procedures. The transaction has also taken longer than expected, and an additional four months of personnel expenses are needed to complete the purchase.

The additional funds will be used for appraisals, appraisal reviews, engineering and documentation of legal descriptions, additional environmental reviews, relocation consultant fees, and additional staff costs. All of the requested augmentation would be for Task 1, Pre-Acquisition Activities, and would fund activities directly related to the acquisition, protection and restoration of land and water resources.

January 24, 2005; Agenda Item No. 13

Resolution No. 05-06

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY AUGMENTING A GRANT OF PROPOSITION 50 FUNDS TO THE MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (SMM-0465) FOR PROJECT PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE SOKA UNIVERSITY ACQUISITION PROJECT, UNINCORPORATED CALABASAS AREA.

WHEREAS, The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is authorized to award grants to government agencies pursuant to Section 33204(c) of the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, The State of California has authorized expenditure of funds from the Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects, Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50) to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for capital outlay and grants to acquire, protect, and restore land and water resources in the major coastal watershed of Santa Monica Bay; and

WHEREAS, The MRCA has made a request for a grant from Proposition 50, Chapter 10, Section 79570(c); and

WHEREAS, The proposed project is consistent with the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project protects land and water resources of the Santa Monica Bay coastal watershed; and

WHEREAS, The proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); Now

*Therefore Be It Resolved*, That the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy hereby:

1. FINDS that the proposed action is consistent with the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan.
2. FINDS that the proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
3. ADOPTS the staff report and recommendations dated January 24, 2005 for this item.

5. AUTHORIZES a grant augmentation of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the Soka University Acquisition-Project Planning and Design project.
6. FURTHER AUTHORIZES the Chairperson to execute the grant agreement and to perform any and all acts necessary to carry out this resolution; without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such authority shall include those provisions that he shall determine in the exclusive exercise of his discretion are necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution and to comply with the policies of the Conservancy, and to otherwise carry out the provisions of state law and regulations.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, duly noticed and held according to law, on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2005 at Malibu, California.

Dated:

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Executive Director